COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF 1102.

Monday, the $\frac{29th\ of\ November\ 1926.}{14th\ of\ Vrischigam\ 1102.}$

The first sitting of the legislative session of 1102 commenced in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ernakulam, at 11—30 a. m. on the 14th of Vrischigam 1102 corresponding to the 29th of November 1926. M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur T. S. Narayana Ayyar Avl., M. A., B. L., Diwan of Cochin and the *ex-officio* President of the Council, presided.

All the Members, except Messrs. K. Krishna Menon, Lonappan Chakkola, Poulo Mampilli, P. Munda Vaidyan, Sreemati T. Madhavi Amma and Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri, were present.

The President's Opening Speech.

President.—Members of the Cochin Legislative Council. This is the first meeting of the session we are in, and I wish, in the customary manner, to extend to you a hearty welcome, and to invite your cordial co-operation and support in the discharge of my responsible function as President of this Council. I sincerely hope that the deliberations of the Council will be characterised by the same dignity, orderliness and usefulness which were the remarkable features of the Council during its previous meetings.

Now, I have to proceed with the business of the day. First, we will begin with Questions and Answers.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The cashing of cheques in certain treasuries.

1. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) why no cheque is allowed to be cashed or issued by the courts in the Trichur and Ernakulam treasuries between the 25th of every month and the 5th of the succeeding month;

(b) does it not cause inconvenience and loss to the public in general;

(c) to avoid the loss of interest and the delay consequent

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upon this arrangement, will the Government be pleased to make suitable arrangements at an early date?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—(a) These two treasuries are generally speaking undermanned. During the first 3 or 4 days and the last two days of the month, there is generally a great rush of transactions. The Treasury Officers found it very difficult to meet all claims for payment presented during these days and to close the treasury before 5 p. m. according to rules. Hence instructions had to be issued so long ago as Dhanu 1099 to cash ordinarily only salary and establishment bills and in *urgent* cases alone other bills and cheques during these days. According to the order of the Chief Court contained in the C. A. C., Vol. I, Article 168 (13), courts do not issue cheques after the 25th of a month. Any party having received a cheque before that date may present it to the treasury and get payment within the last two days of the month. This restriction is, however, waived for Karkadagam, since all payments have to be made in the year itself.

(b) May to a certain extent; but the Government cannot help it for the reasons given in (a) above.

(c) A scheme for the re-organisation of the treasuries is now before the Special Finance Committee, and the Government will consider the question of making suitable arrangements when the treasuries have begun to work under that scheme.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is it not a peculiar feature of the Trichur and Ernakulam treasuries, that, after the first of every month, there is an order that cheques should not be issued by the courts?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—There is an order, both to the Trichur and Cochin-Kanayannur treasuries, as they are both heavily-worked treasuries. The order, as stated, was in 1099, and that is being followed.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—There is no Chief Court circular that no cheques should be issued after the 1st and before the 5th. It causes inconvenience to the public, because they have to wait for 4 or 5 days, contrary to the custom in other treasuries. In the other treasuries, cheques will be issued on the 1st, unless there are no special circumstances. But, in the case of the Ernakulam and Trichur treasuries, after the 1st, till the 5th, people are put to inconvenience.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—There is very heavy work. So a circular was issued that cheques should not be cashed on such days.

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